

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application;

--1. - 18. (Cancelled)

--19. (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus for an optical recording medium having a first recording layer for recording first data and a second recording layer for recording second data, wherein said first and said second recording layers are positioned adjacent to one another and said second data is recorded at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded, said reproducing apparatus comprising:

readout means for reading said first data derived from a selected audio program and second derived from the same selected audio program from said optical recording medium;

reproducing means for generating replay signals based on said first and said second data read from said readout means; and

control means for controlling said readout means and said reproducing means,

wherein said readout means includes an objective lens for reading one of said first and said second data and said second data is recorded in a range accessible by said objective lens

by shifting a focus of said objective lens from a location of said first recording layer where said first data relevant to said second data is recorded to said location of said second layer where said second data is recorded, [[and]]

wherein said control means controls to alternately read said first data recorded in said first recording layer and said second data recorded in said second recording layer[[.]],
and

wherein said reproducing means includes a first buffer memory for holding said first data read and reproduced from said first recording layer by said readout means; a second buffer memory for holding said second data read and reproduced from said second recording layer by said readout means; and synthesis means for synthesizing said first data read from said first buffer memory and said second data read from said second buffer memory.

--20. and 21. (Cancelled)

--22. (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said control means controls to synthesize said first and said second data read from said readout means to output said replay signals.

--23. (Cancelled)

--24. (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus for an

optical recording medium having a first recording layer for recording first data and a second recording layer for recording second data constituting a single recording data unit, said first and said second recording layers being mounted adjacent to one another and said second data being recorded at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded, said reproducing apparatus comprising:

readout means for reading said first data derived from a selected audio program and said second data derived from the same selected audio program from said optical recording medium;

reproducing means for generating replay signals based on said first and said second data read from said readout means; and

control means for controlling said readout means and said reproducing means,

wherein said readout means includes an objective lens and said second data is recorded in a range accessible by said objective lens by shifting a focus of said objective lens from said location of said first recording layer where said first data relevant to said second data is recorded to said location of said second layer where said second data is recorded[[.]]and

wherein said readout means includes a first buffer memory for holding said first data read by said readout means from

said first recording layer and reproduced; a second buffer memory for holding said second data read by said readout means from said second recording layer and reproduced; and a synthesis unit for synthesizing said first data read from said first buffer memory and said second data read from said second buffer memory.

--25. (Cancelled)

--26. (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said control means controls said reproducing means to synthesize said first and said second data read by said readout means to output said replay signals.

--27. - 43. (Cancelled)